

Curriculum Vitae of Esmé Lily Katherine Partridge

Profile

Final year undergraduate student of Religion, Culture and Society (with Arabic) at SOAS specialising in the cultures of the Middle East, Islamic thought, secularism and the place of religion in modernity. Equipped with advanced research skills as a published author and historical consultant, in addition to professional experience in editing, communications, radio and podcasting.

Education

2018-2021 SOAS, University of London

BA Religion, Culture and Society (with Arabic)

Modules in the Religions of the Middle East; Islamic Studies; Arabic Language; Islam in Britain; and Religion in World Politics. Final year dissertation on digital religion in a secular age. Achieved a **First** in all **all** modules during the second year of the course.

2011-2018 Wood Green School, Oxfordshire

A-Levels

Extended Project (AS Equiv): **A***; Religious Studies: **A***; Drama: **B**; English: **C**.

GCSEs

Attained ten GCSEs including English and Mathematics, achieving five **As** and **A*s**.

Professional Experience

October 2020 - Present Freelance Writer and Editor

Regularly writing articles on Islam, philosophy and secularism published by the SOAS Spirit, ArabLit Quarterly, Alif, Traversing Tradition, Muslim Institute and The Royal Society of Arts. Reviewing all contributor pieces in Alif and professionally editing a twenty-two chapter academic book on Islam and Greek philosophy.

July 2020 - Present Everyday Muslim Interviewer, Podcast Writer & Presenter

Conducting oral history interviews with individuals on their experiences as Muslims living in Britain and adapting their stories into radio-style podcast scripts. Produced and presented the podcast series 'Stories from the Archives' (released Spring 2021) narrating the stories of Black British Muslims; Muslims who lived through the Partition of India and Pakistan; and British converts to Islam.

July 2020 - Present Freelance Historical Consultant

Researching and presenting on the religions and philosophies of the Early Modern Silk Road to develop a convincing narrative for a startup fantasy roleplaying game (set to be released Summer 2021).

October 2018 - June 2020 SOAS Students' Union Student Representative

Proposed suggestions for the running of the History, Religions and Philosophies department on a termly basis and mediated staff-student dialogue. Elected for two consecutive academic years.

Student Representative Training Facilitator

Devised and led interactive training workshops for prospective student representatives.

July 2017 Oxford City Council

Arts & Culture Intern

Assisted with planning and promoting cultural events in the City of Oxford during a short summer placement.

June - Bestival

November Public Relations Intern

2016

Assisted with internal and external communications; content writing for the Bestival website; and representing the company on Soho Radio as part of their weekly promotional programme, announcing artist line-ups and competition winners live on air.

Publications, Awards and Presentations

- Began writing dissertation-length independent research essays on Philosophy and Islamic thought at the age of seventeen.
- Awarded a commendation in the international Ibn 'Arabi Society Young Writers Competition 2019 for an essay on the mystical dimension of the Moon in the cosmology of Ibn 'Arabi which has since been published in Volume 68 of the peer-reviewed Journal of The Muhyiddin Ibn 'Arabi Society.
- Contributed to the development of Alif: Traditional Wisdom in Review, a digital media publication bridging the gap between the Islamic and Western intellectual traditions.
- Presented a lecture on *Creativity and Imagination Within Islamic Mysticism* at The Temenos Academy's Young Scholars Day 2019 at the University of Cambridge.
- Featured on several Youtube channels and podcasts presenting on religion, philosophy and mysticism in modernity (see portfolio for details).